

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE  
MONITOR

MAY 20 1964

## Ray Interviewed

# *Exiles Map Drive on Cuba*

By Walter Wurfel  
Special to The Christian Science Monitor

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Latent dissatisfaction among the Cuban people is Fidel Castro's weakest point, says Cuban exile leader Manuel Ray.

Aiming to play upon this weakness, Mr. Ray and about 50 specialists in guerrilla warfare and sabotage headed for covert entrance somewhere in Cuba on Tuesday.

"Our weapon is the will of the people," said Mr. Ray, in his role as spokesman for the 10-member directorate of the Exiled Cuban Revolutionary Junta (JURE). "Our weapon is higher than Fidel Castro. . . . All other means are just weapons to mobilize that weapon."

Mr. Ray spoke to this reporter in an exclusive 90-minute interview at his San Juan home on April 29. He was in the final stages of planning the JURE campaign inside Cuba which he hopes will overthrow Premier Castro. He specified the interview was not to be published until May 20, the day he had repeatedly pledged to be inside his homeland.

### Main Purpose of Struggle Given

The disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961 hit Premier Castro at his strong point, the military, said Mr. Ray. This time JURE will avoid that mistake. There will be no pitched combats, only small hit-and-run raids, and coordinated sabotage attacks.

Mr. Ray, who likes to be thought of as a practical man, thinks a string of initial successes by his small guerrilla teams will convince the Cubans that here is an organization that may succeed in overthrowing Premier Castro.

Mr. Ray has no delusions about JURE's chances of success if it cannot rally the people. But he thinks the people are ready to back a well-organized effort to undermine the Castro government.

"The main purpose of this struggle will be to knock on the door of the Cubans," said Mr. Ray. "It is more important to make the people act themselves than rely on the actions of JURE itself."

"If we bring the Cuban people the image and organization to say the regime is not as perfect as Castro says, 95 percent will support us and participate with us when they have confidence," the rebel leader claimed.

### 'We Count on the Will of the People'

"We don't count on having more arms than Fidel has," he added. "We count on the will of the people."

Particularly disenchanted with Premier Castro, said Mr. Ray, are the men who were small sharecropper farmers under the Batista regime. These, he said, are worse off under Dr. Castro than before, because they no longer can keep part of their production for their own use.

Mr. Ray admitted that the men who formerly hired themselves out as farm laborers may be slightly better off under Premier Castro, mainly because of their extreme poverty and miserable living conditions under the previous regime.

But, the former sharecroppers account for about one-quarter of the Cuban population, he said.

Continued